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AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGES IN THE SOUTHEAST- 2002

Average annual wages rose in all 12 southeastern¹ states and the District of Columbia in 2002, but most jurisdictions recorded smaller increases than in the previous year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Sheila Watkins, regional commissioner of the Bureau in Philadelphia, noted that wage gains for states in the Southeast equaled or surpassed the 1.3-percent annual increase in the Consumer Price Index for the South in 2002.

Average annual wage data are compiled from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from employer reports on over 128 million full- and part-time workers. Average annual wage data is computed by dividing total annual payrolls of employees covered by UI programs by the average monthly number of these employees. Wage differences reflect the varying composition of employment by occupation, industry, hours of work, as well as other factors. Over-the-year wage changes may reflect shifts in the composition of employment, as well as changes in the average wage level.

States

Generally, percentage increases in pay among southeastern states were smaller than in 2001. Tennessee (3.2 percent) and Mississippi (2.8 percent) were the exceptions in the region, and were two of only 13 states nationally with wage gains either equaling or surpassing their previous year's expansion. Overall, wage growth in the U.S. slowed from 2.5 percent in 2001 to 1.5 percent in 2002.

In the region, four states (Alabama, Delaware, Tennessee, and Maryland) and the District of Columbia recorded wage growth of 3.0 percent or greater. Among these, the District of Columbia (3.6 percent) posted the largest increase, followed by Alabama (3.5 percent) and Delaware (3.3 percent). Virginia reported the smallest gain in the region at 1.3 percent and was the only state in the Southeast, and one of nine states nationwide, to record an increase below the national rate. (See table 1.)

Nationally, Hawaii's 4.5-percent wage gain in 2002 surpassed all states and was the only increase greater than 4.0 percent. Thirteen other states and the District of Columbia registered growth of 3.0 percent or more, led by Nebraska at 3.8 percent. Two states recorded decreases in the average wage, New York (-0.9 percent) and Connecticut (-0.3 percent). These were the first recorded drops in the average wage levels for any state since 1996.

¹ The 2002 Southeast Average Annual Wages release focuses on jurisdictions located in the South Atlantic division (Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia) and the East South Central division (Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee).

In 2002, 14 states and the District of Columbia had wage levels surpassing the national average (\$36,764). Jurisdictions with the highest average wage in the Southeast were geographically clustered at the northern end of the region--District of Columbia (\$57,914), Delaware (\$39,684), Maryland (\$39,382), and Virginia (\$37,222). Nationwide, the four highest-paying states were Connecticut (\$46,852), New York (\$46,328), New Jersey (\$45,182), and Massachusetts (\$44,954). Among all jurisdictions, the District of Columbia had the highest average wage level, a distinction the area has held since 1987.

Mississippi (\$26,665) remained the lowest-paying state in the region, followed by West Virginia (\$28,612), although both recorded increases above the U.S. average. Nationally, Montana posted the lowest wages at \$26,001, followed by South Dakota (\$26,360), and North Dakota (\$26,550). These three states have continued to have the lowest average wages in the nation since 1988.

Metropolitan Areas

Five southeastern areas were among the top ten areas recording the largest percentage increases among the 318 metropolitan areas nationwide in 2002. Dover, Del. led the nation in wage growth in 2002 (7.4 percent) followed by Bremerton, Wash. (7.1 percent). The percentage gain in Dover more than doubled the wage increase experienced by the area in the previous year. Parkersburg-Marietta, W.V.-Ohio (5.8 percent) and Clarksville-Hopkinsville, Tenn.-Ken. (5.4 percent) recorded the nation's third and fourth largest growth rates, respectively. Other southeastern areas in the top ten included Fort Pierce-Port St. Lucie, Fla. (5.1 percent) which ranked eighth and Huntsville, Ala. (5.0 percent) which posted the tenth largest increase in the nation. None of these areas were among the growth leaders in 2001. (See table 3.)

Seven areas in the Southeast reported wage gains below the average for all metropolitan areas in the U.S. (1.4 percent). Two of these areas had negative wage growth--Decatur, Ala. (-1.7 percent), which posted the sixth largest decline in the nation, and Wilmington, N.C. (-0.4 percent), which reported the eleventh largest decline. Only one year earlier, both Decatur and Wilmington had recorded wage gains of more than 4.0 percent. In fact, in 2001, no metropolitan area in the region recorded a decline in their average wage. The five remaining areas with below average wage increases in 2002 were Rocky Mount, N.C. (0.4 percent); Pensacola, Fla. (0.5 percent); Biloxi-Gulfport-Pascagoula, Miss. (0.6 percent); and Asheville, N.C. and Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, N.C. (0.9 percent each). In 2001, Pensacola had posted one of the nation's largest percentage gains at 6.8 percent.

Nationwide, the number of areas reporting wage growth below the national average dropped from 88 in 2001 to 45 in 2002, while the number of areas reporting declines was little changed, edging up 4 in 2002. The largest percentage drops were recorded by San Francisco, Calif. (-5.1 percent); San Jose, Calif. (-4.4 percent); and Austin-San Marcos, Texas (-3.2 percent). The 2002 declines marked the second year of lower than average wages in the San Jose and Austin-San Marcos areas. However, San Jose's loss in 2001 was among the steepest in the nation at 13.5 percent, while Austin-San Marcos' 0.4-percentage point decline was relatively weak.

Washington, D.C.-Md.-Va.-W.V. continued to record the highest average wage among metropolitan areas in the Southeast (\$48,430), ranking eighth among all areas nationwide. The area has remained consistently ranked among the top ten pay areas in the nation over the past 10 years. Wilmington-Newark, Del.-Md. remained the second highest-paying area in the Southeast (\$43,401), but rose nationally from 21st in 2001 to 16th in 2002. Other areas with wages above the national metropolitan area average (\$38,423) included Atlanta, Ga. (\$41,123), which maintained its national ranking of 25th; Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, N.C. (\$39,056); Baltimore, Md. (\$38,718); and Huntsville, Ala. (\$38,571), which moved up from the 43rd

position to 38th. Nationally, only 38 of 318 metropolitan areas posted a wage level above the national average. Despite recent declines, San Jose, Calif. continued to record the nation's highest annual wage at \$63,056, a position it has held since 1997. New York, N.Y. had the second highest pay level (\$57,708), displacing San Francisco (\$56,602), which fell to third place in 2002.

Four of the five lowest-paying metropolitan areas in the region were located in North Carolina and South Carolina. Jacksonville, N.C. (\$22,269), recorded the lowest wage level, regionally as well as nationally, for the 13th consecutive year. The second lowest wage area in the Southeast was Myrtle Beach, S.C. (\$24,672); followed by Sumter, S.C. (\$24,982); Goldsboro, N.C. (\$25,821); and Hattiesburg, Miss. (\$26,051).

Within the U.S., Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito, Texas (\$22,892), posted the second lowest average wage in the nation after Jacksonville, N.C. McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, Texas (\$23,179) was third followed by Yuma, Ariz. (\$23,429). While the order of rankings has differed over the years, the grouping of the four lowest-paying areas in the nation has stayed consistent since 1996.

Large Counties

Of the 315 largest counties in the nation, 81 were located in the Southeast. Six counties nationwide recorded wage gains greater than 5 percent in 2002, including three in the Southeast. Manatee County, Fla. posted the largest percentage increase in the region, as well as for the nation, at 7.3 percent. The other southeastern areas reporting large percentage increases included Alexandria City, Va. (5.4 percent); and Madison County, Ala. (5.1 percent). Nationally, those counties showing increases greater than 5 percent included Kitsap, Wash. (7.1 percent); Elkhart, Ind. (5.3 percent); and Onondaga, N.Y. (5.2 percent). Of the top ten wage growth areas in the U.S., only two recorded wages above the national average of \$36,764 and both of these were in the Southeast -- Alexandria City (\$46,984) and Madison County (\$38,975). (See table 4.)

Large counties are defined as those with employment of 75,000 or more. In 2001, only counties with employment of 100,000 or more were included in the definition. Some areas defined as counties in this release are not officially designated as counties; for example, Alexandria City and Newport News City, both in Virginia, fall into this category. In addition, data for Washington, D.C. was not used in calculating U.S. rankings for counties, as the area was already included in the state portion of the text and tables.

Loudon County, Va.—part of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area—posted the nation's largest decline in wages in 2002 (-22.1 percent), although its pay level (\$47,761) still ranked in the top 20 nationwide. Newport News City, Va. (-1.5 percent), and Durham County, N.C. (-0.8 percent), were the only other areas in the Southeast to experience a decline in their average wage. Both of these have experienced decreases in their manufacturing employment base. Nationally, 22 counties recorded declines in average annual wages in 2002. Williamson County, Texas (-16.8 percent)—home to the Austin metropolitan area—posted the nation's second largest percentage drop after Loudon, Va. The next largest declines in wages were all located in the greater San Francisco-San Jose, area in California and included San Mateo County (-8.1 percent), Santa Clara County (-4.4 percent), and San Francisco County (-4.2 percent). All five of these counties have been affected by cutbacks in technology firms that fueled a portion of their growth in the past decade.

The Southeast's top two counties for wages were both located in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. Arlington County, Va. recorded the highest average wage level at \$57,427 and was the only county in the region to rank among the nation's top10, placing seventh. Fairfax County, Va., which is adjacent to Arlington, recorded the region's next highest average wage at \$53,598, ranking it 11th nationally. Nationwide, the top three counties remained the same as in 2001, although all had suffered drops in their average wage over the year. New York, N.Y. recorded the nation's highest wage level (\$72,454), despite posting a 3.2-percent decline in 2002. This was the second consecutive year that the county, which is comprised of the borough of Manhattan, led the nation in pay. Santa Clara County, Calif. (\$63,056), and Fairfield County, Conn. (\$60,712), remained in second and third place, respectively.

Five of the lowest-paying counties in the nation were located in the Southeast in 2002. Horry County, S.C. (\$26,628), recorded the region's lowest pay, followed by Pasco County, Fla. (\$25,602); Marion County, Fla. (\$26,628); Harrison County, Miss. (\$26,844); and Volusia County, Fla. (\$26,947). The two counties with the lowest wages nationally were in Texas along the border with Mexico—Cameron (\$22,892) and Hidalgo (\$23,179), same as in 2001.

Technical Note

Background

These data are the product of a federal-state cooperative program, the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from summaries of employment and total pay of workers covered by state and federal unemployment insurance (UI) legislation and provided by State Employment Security Agencies (SESAs). The summaries are a by-product of the administration of state unemployment insurance programs that require most employers to pay quarterly taxes based on the employment and wages of workers covered by UI.

Coverage

Employment and wage data for workers covered by state UI laws and for federal civilian workers covered by the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program are compiled from quarterly contribution reports submitted to the SESAs by employers. In addition to the quarterly contribution reports, employers who operate multiple establishments within a state complete a questionnaire, called the "Multiple Worksite Report," which provides detailed information on the location and industry of each of their establishments. Average annual pay data are derived from summaries of employment and wages submitted by states to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. These reports are based on place of employment rather than place of residence.

UI and UCFE coverage is broad and basically comparable from state to state. In 2002, UI and UCFE programs covered workers in 128.2 million jobs. Covered workers received \$4.713 trillion in pay, representing 94.3 percent of the wage and salary component of personal income and 45.1 percent of the gross domestic product.

Major exclusions from UI coverage include self-employed workers, most agricultural workers on small farms, all members of the Armed Forces, elected officials in most states, most employees of railroads, some domestic workers, most student workers at schools, and employees of certain small nonprofit organizations.

Concepts and methodology

Average annual wages was computed by dividing total annual wages of employees covered by UI programs by the average monthly number of these employees. In addition to salaries, average annual wages data include bonuses, the cash value of meals and lodging when supplied, tips and other gratuities, and, in some states, employer contributions to certain deferred compensation plans such as 401(k) plans, and stock options. Monthly employment is based on the number of workers who worked during or received pay for the pay period including the 12th of the month. With few exceptions, all employees of covered firms are reported, including production and sales workers, corporation officials, executives, supervisory personnel, and clerical workers. Workers on paid vacations and part-time workers also are included.

Average annual wages are affected by the ratio of full-time to part-time workers as well as the number of individuals in high-paying and low-paying occupations. When comparing average annual wage levels between industries and/or states, these factors should be taken into consideration. Annual pay data only approximate annual earnings because an individual may not be employed by the same employer all year or may work for more than one employer. Also, year-to-year changes in average annual wages can result from a change in the proportion of employment in high- and low-wage jobs, as well as from changes in the level of average annual wages.

In order to insure the highest possible quality of data, SESAs verify with employers and update, if necessary, the industry, location, and ownership classification of all establishments on a 3-year cycle. Changes in establishment classification codes resulting from the verification process are introduced with the data reported for the first quarter of the year. Changes resulting from improved employer reporting also are introduced in the first quarter. For these reasons, some data, especially at more detailed industry levels, may not be strictly comparable with earlier years.

A few covered employers provided insufficient information on the nature of their businesses to enable the SESA to assign a specific NAICS code. The establishments of these employers therefore could not be classified by industry sector. The wages for these nonclassifiable establishments, along with data for the agricultural division, are not shown separately, but are included in the averages for state and national totals.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defines metropolitan areas for use in federal statistical activities and updates these definitions as needed each summer—data in this release use criteria established in definitions issued June 30, 1999 (OMB Bulletin No. 99-04). The 318 metropolitan areas in the United States are a compilation of a set of areas classified as Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas (PMSAs) and Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (CMSAs). Generally speaking, an MSA consists of one or more counties and meets specified size criteria—either it contains a city of at least 50,000 inhabitants, or it contains an urbanized area of at least 50,000 inhabitants, and has a total population of at least 100,000 (75,000 in New England). A CMSA is a metropolitan area that has a population of at least 1 million and has been divided into two or more PMSAs. The CMSA comprises the same geographic area as its constituent PMSAs which are loosely defined as free-standing areas that have a population of at least 100,000.

County definitions are assigned according to Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) as issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, after approval by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to Section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 and the Computer Security Act of 1987, Public Law 104-106. Areas shown as counties include areas designated as independent cities in some jurisdictions, and, in Alaska, those designated as census areas where counties have not been created.

Additional statistics and other information

Additional average annual wages data (or Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages data) is available on the BLS Internet site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/home.htm>. Beginning in October 2002, quarterly data are available for selected QCEW series. Data can be accessed in several ways, including *Selective Access*, which allows quick access to particular items, and the special request FTP service, which allows access to extensive collection of flat text files. The Mid-Atlantic Information Office can provide assistance accessing these files by calling (215) 597-3282.

This news release, along with other BLS statistics and information, is available via the Internet at the BLS World Wide Web site <http://www.bls.gov/ro3/home.htm>.

An annual bulletin, *Employment and Wages*, features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. *Employment and Wages Annual Averages, 2002* is now available in a portable document format (PDF) on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn02.htm>.

News releases on quarterly measures of gross job flows also are available upon request from the Division of Administrative Statistics and Labor Turnover (Business Employment Dynamics), telephone 202-691-6467; (<http://www.bls.gov/bdm/>); (e-mail: BDMInfo@bls.gov).

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339. For personal assistance or further information on annual average pay data as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Mid-Atlantic Information Office at (215) 597-3282 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. eastern time.

Table 1. Average annual wages for 2001 and 2002 for all covered workers¹

State	Annual average wages		
	2001	2002	Percent Change 2001-02
United States²	\$36,219	\$36,764	1.5
Alabama	30,102	31,163	3.5
Alaska	36,170	37,134	2.7
Arizona	33,411	34,036	1.9
Arkansas	27,260	28,074	3.0
California	41,327	41,419	0.2
Colorado	37,952	38,005	0.1
Connecticut	46,993	46,852	-0.3
Delaware	38,427	39,684	3.3
District of Columbia	55,909	57,914	3.6
Florida	31,553	32,426	2.8
Georgia	35,136	35,734	1.7
Hawaii	31,253	32,671	4.5
Idaho	27,768	28,163	1.4
Illinois	39,083	39,688	1.5
Indiana	31,779	32,603	2.6
Iowa	28,837	29,668	2.9
Kansas	30,153	30,825	2.2
Kentucky	30,021	30,904	2.9
Louisiana	29,131	30,115	3.4
Maine	28,815	29,736	3.2
Maryland	38,253	39,382	3.0
Massachusetts	44,975	44,954	0.0
Michigan	37,391	38,135	2.0
Minnesota	36,587	37,458	2.4
Mississippi	25,923	26,665	2.9
Missouri	32,421	33,118	2.1
Montana	25,195	26,001	3.2
Nebraska	28,377	29,448	3.8
Nevada	33,121	33,993	2.6
New Hampshire	35,481	36,176	2.0
New Jersey	44,320	45,182	1.9
New Mexico	28,702	29,431	2.5
New York	46,727	46,328	-0.9
North Carolina	32,024	32,689	2.1
North Dakota	25,707	26,550	3.3
Ohio	33,283	34,214	2.8
Oklahoma	28,016	28,654	2.3
Oregon	33,204	33,684	1.4
Pennsylvania	34,978	35,808	2.4
Rhode Island	33,603	34,810	3.6
South Carolina	29,255	30,003	2.6
South Dakota	25,601	26,360	3.0
Tennessee	31,520	32,531	3.2
Texas	36,045	36,248	0.6
Utah	30,077	30,585	1.7
Vermont	30,238	31,041	2.7
Virginia	36,733	37,222	1.3
Washington	37,459	38,242	2.1
West Virginia	27,981	28,612	2.3
Wisconsin	31,540	32,464	2.9
Wyoming	28,043	28,975	3.3

Areas included in the Southeast are in bold-face type.

¹Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

²Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Table 2. Average annual wages for 2001 and 2002 by NAICS industry for all covered¹ workers by Southeast State

State and Industry	Average annual wages		
	2001	2002	Percent Change 2001-02
United States²			
Private			
Total ³	\$36,157	\$36,539	1.1
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	20,188	20,890	3.5
Mining	59,686	60,392	1.2
Construction	38,412	39,027	1.6
Manufacturing	42,969	44,097	2.6
Wholesale trade	48,791	49,241	0.9
Retail trade	22,667	23,232	2.5
Transportation and warehousing	36,189	36,823	1.8
Utilities	65,561	67,374	2.8
Information	57,288	56,103	-2.1
Finance and insurance	63,687	62,762	-1.5
Real estate and rental and leasing	32,871	33,924	3.2
Professional and technical services	58,755	58,672	-0.1
Management of companies and enterprises	68,965	69,277	0.5
Administrative and waste services	24,443	25,276	3.4
Educational services	32,066	33,163	3.4
Health care and social assistance	32,813	34,043	3.7
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	25,344	26,159	3.2
Accommodation and food services	13,674	13,946	2.0
Other services, except public administration	23,220	23,784	2.4
Government	36,549	37,935	3.8
Alabama			
Private			
Total ³	29,532	30,523	3.4
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	24,518	24,967	1.8
Mining	51,303	52,598	2.5
Construction	30,848	31,480	2.0
Manufacturing	34,630	36,280	4.8
Wholesale trade	39,978	41,009	2.6
Retail trade	19,886	20,587	3.5
Transportation and warehousing	30,247	31,608	4.5
Utilities	67,142	67,568	0.6
Information	42,144	43,365	2.9
Finance and insurance	40,889	43,600	6.6
Real estate and rental and leasing	24,403	26,111	7.0
Professional and technical services	48,329	48,585	0.5
Management of companies and enterprises	51,263	51,313	0.1
Administrative and waste services	18,095	19,386	7.1
Educational services	23,275	24,528	5.4
Health care and social assistance	32,116	33,322	3.8
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	14,514	15,032	3.6
Accommodation and food services	10,766	11,024	2.4
Other services, except public administration	21,263	22,140	4.1
Government	32,678	33,987	4.0
Delaware			
Private			
Total ³	38,680	39,494	2.1
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	(4)	26,387	(4)
Mining	(4)	39,098	(4)
Construction	37,469	38,508	2.8
Manufacturing	43,744	49,023	12.1
Wholesale trade	52,336	53,220	1.7
Retail trade	21,689	22,387	3.2
Transportation and warehousing	32,116	32,192	0.2
Utilities	77,888	86,771	11.4
Information	50,115	50,864	1.5
Finance and insurance	52,005	55,550	6.8
Real estate and rental and leasing	32,887	32,639	-0.8
Professional and technical services	67,153	67,841	1.0
Management of companies and enterprises	80,326	72,530	-9.7
Administrative and waste services	21,097	22,432	6.3
Educational services	29,191	30,286	3.8
Health care and social assistance	36,424	37,798	3.8
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	20,344	20,485	0.7
Accommodation and food services	13,944	14,295	2.5
Other services, except public administration	23,223	23,667	1.9
Government	36,750	40,903	11.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Average annual wages for 2001 and 2002 by NAICS industry for all covered workers¹ by Southeast States (Continued)

State and Industry	Average annual wages		
	2001	2002	Percent Change 2001-02
District of Columbia			
Private			
Total ³	\$52,903	\$54,034	2.1
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	(4)	(4)	(4)
Mining	(4)	(4)	(4)
Construction	43,512	45,982	5.7
Manufacturing	63,453	(4)	(4)
Wholesale trade	63,421	64,772	2.1
Retail trade	25,777	26,276	1.9
Transportation and warehousing	(4)	(4)	(4)
Utilities	(4)	(4)	(4)
Information	(4)	76,029	(4)
Finance and insurance	97,559	95,016	-2.6
Real estate and rental and leasing	46,861	47,427	1.2
Professional and technical services	81,877	83,788	2.3
Management of companies and enterprises	131,695	129,629	-1.6
Administrative and waste services	28,242	29,181	3.3
Educational services	40,976	42,941	4.8
Health care and social assistance	40,690	41,010	0.8
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	49,745	45,735	-8.1
Accommodation and food services	21,954	22,785	3.8
Other services, except public administration	50,394	52,833	4.8
Government	61,640	64,991	5.4
Florida			
Private			
Total ³	31,038	31,816	2.5
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	18,160	18,495	1.8
Mining	44,756	46,008	2.8
Construction	33,602	34,096	1.5
Manufacturing	37,985	39,389	3.7
Wholesale trade	45,636	46,099	1.0
Retail trade	22,652	23,288	2.8
Transportation and warehousing	33,699	34,438	2.2
Utilities	59,507	61,592	3.5
Information	46,409	46,144	-0.6
Finance and insurance	48,962	50,672	3.5
Real estate and rental and leasing	30,296	31,440	3.8
Professional and technical services	49,694	49,728	0.1
Management of companies and enterprises	60,715	61,353	1.1
Administrative and waste services	22,705	24,092	6.1
Educational services	27,653	28,529	3.2
Health care and social assistance	33,588	34,815	3.7
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	26,208	26,674	1.8
Accommodation and food services	14,550	14,750	1.4
Other services, except public administration	22,221	22,583	1.6
Government	34,719	36,124	4.0
Georgia			
Private			
Total ³	35,574	36,007	1.2
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	21,639	21,250	-1.8
Mining	44,550	47,556	6.7
Construction	35,696	36,043	1.0
Manufacturing	37,015	37,816	2.2
Wholesale trade	53,079	52,971	-0.2
Retail trade	22,501	22,866	1.6
Transportation and warehousing	41,989	42,838	2.0
Utilities	64,225	67,179	4.6
Information	57,243	57,113	-0.2
Finance and insurance	54,640	56,196	2.8
Real estate and rental and leasing	34,799	36,247	4.2
Professional and technical services	56,217	56,607	0.7
Management of companies and enterprises	58,363	59,965	2.7
Administrative and waste services	24,583	25,218	2.6
Educational services	29,541	30,196	2.2
Health care and social assistance	33,994	35,257	3.7
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	27,194	30,414	11.8
Accommodation and food services	13,388	13,442	0.4
Other services, except public administration	23,468	24,254	3.3
Government	32,769	34,327	4.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Average annual wages for 2001 and 2002 by NAICS industry for all covered workers¹ by Southeast States (Continued)

State and Industry	Average annual wages		
	2001	2002	Percent Change 2001-02
Kentucky			
Private			
Total ³	\$29,934	\$30,727	2.6
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	24,317	24,706	1.6
Mining	45,355	45,876	1.1
Construction	32,776	33,271	1.5
Manufacturing	38,070	39,660	4.2
Wholesale trade	40,241	41,363	2.8
Retail trade	19,087	19,713	3.3
Transportation and warehousing	38,290	38,691	1.0
Utilities	61,089	56,806	-7.0
Information	35,125	35,293	0.5
Finance and insurance	40,107	41,649	3.8
Real estate and rental and leasing	23,812	25,044	5.2
Professional and technical services	42,250	42,409	0.4
Management of companies and enterprises	64,128	68,682	7.1
Administrative and waste services	18,392	19,530	6.2
Educational services	23,580	24,368	3.3
Health care and social assistance	30,761	31,688	3.0
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	16,469	17,254	4.8
Accommodation and food services	11,475	11,943	4.1
Other services, except public administration	21,158	21,808	3.1
Government	30,458	31,763	4.3
Maryland			
Private			
Total ³	37,047	37,873	2.2
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	23,392	23,923	2.3
Mining	50,944	47,942	-5.9
Construction	40,353	41,201	2.1
Manufacturing	47,171	48,568	3.0
Wholesale trade	52,021	52,708	1.3
Retail trade	24,011	24,678	2.8
Transportation and warehousing	34,889	35,790	2.6
Utilities	66,809	68,669	2.8
Information	55,849	56,321	0.8
Finance and insurance	57,803	59,932	3.7
Real estate and rental and leasing	35,691	37,707	5.6
Professional and technical services	58,999	60,727	2.9
Management of companies and enterprises	52,807	54,352	2.9
Administrative and waste services	25,617	26,816	4.7
Educational services	34,884	36,200	3.8
Health care and social assistance	34,816	35,962	3.3
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	22,676	22,419	-1.1
Accommodation and food services	15,543	15,445	-0.6
Other services, except public administration	25,852	26,549	2.7
Government	43,659	46,011	5.4
Mississippi			
Private			
Total ³	25,597	26,313	2.8
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	21,193	21,748	2.6
Mining	41,750	43,680	4.6
Construction	28,408	29,786	4.9
Manufacturing	29,419	30,384	3.3
Wholesale trade	35,567	36,613	2.9
Retail trade	18,003	18,468	2.6
Transportation and warehousing	30,348	30,934	1.9
Utilities	46,790	49,209	5.2
Information	36,471	35,418	-2.9
Finance and insurance	34,988	36,277	3.7
Real estate and rental and leasing	20,801	22,436	7.9
Professional and technical services	38,495	39,477	2.6
Management of companies and enterprises	46,549	49,237	5.8
Administrative and waste services	16,733	17,555	4.9
Educational services	21,593	22,471	4.1
Health care and social assistance	29,060	30,161	3.8
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	19,335	18,727	-3.1
Accommodation and food services	13,170	13,764	4.5
Other services, except public administration	19,991	20,529	2.7
Government	27,192	28,006	3.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Average annual wages for 2001 and 2002 by NAICS industry for all covered workers¹ by Southeast States (Continued)

State and Industry	Average annual wages		
	2001	2002	Percent Change 2001-02
North Carolina			
Private			
Total ³	\$31,910	\$32,490	1.8
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	22,304	22,856	2.5
Mining	45,480	45,440	-0.1
Construction	31,992	31,983	0.0
Manufacturing	37,097	38,281	3.2
Wholesale trade	43,273	44,494	2.8
Retail trade	21,194	21,568	1.8
Transportation and warehousing	34,859	35,279	1.2
Utilities	58,433	59,759	2.3
Information	(5)	47,237	(5)
Finance and insurance	51,151	54,150	5.9
Real estate and rental and leasing	28,062	28,705	2.3
Professional and technical services	48,413	48,394	0.0
Management of companies and enterprises	62,671	65,544	4.6
Administrative and waste services	21,054	22,145	5.2
Educational services	32,160	32,804	2.0
Health care and social assistance	31,658	32,156	1.6
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	23,119	22,976	-0.6
Accommodation and food services	11,952	12,040	0.7
Other services, except public administration	21,999	21,935	-0.3
Government	32,619	33,695	3.3
South Carolina			
Private			
Total ³	28,796	29,485	2.4
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	22,905	22,371	-2.3
Mining	38,810	39,602	2.0
Construction	31,042	31,357	1.0
Manufacturing	35,880	37,604	4.8
Wholesale trade	40,001	41,554	3.9
Retail trade	20,762	21,203	2.1
Transportation and warehousing	30,636	31,359	2.4
Utilities	55,089	55,422	0.6
Information	38,870	38,561	-0.8
Finance and insurance	39,191	40,706	3.9
Real estate and rental and leasing	27,375	27,298	2.0
Professional and technical services	45,374	45,455	0.2
Management of companies and enterprises	44,798	48,038	7.2
Administrative and waste services	22,852	23,972	4.9
Educational services	24,084	24,710	2.6
Health care and social assistance	31,823	32,394	1.8
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	15,433	15,551	0.8
Accommodation and food services	11,950	12,173	1.9
Other services, except public administration	20,939	21,616	3.2
Government	31,445	32,427	3.1
Tennessee			
Private			
Total ³	31,457	32,471	3.2
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	21,358	21,588	1.1
Mining	45,230	44,969	-0.6
Construction	34,193	34,602	1.2
Manufacturing	36,929	38,686	4.8
Wholesale trade	41,964	43,377	3.4
Retail trade	21,956	22,652	3.2
Transportation and warehousing	36,581	38,273	4.6
Utilities	45,258	46,916	3.7
Information	39,880	40,735	2.1
Finance and insurance	47,369	49,300	4.1
Real estate and rental and leasing	29,050	30,049	3.4
Professional and technical services	45,873	47,156	2.8
Management of companies and enterprises	44,763	46,960	4.9
Administrative and waste services	22,853	23,327	2.1
Educational services	33,353	35,214	5.6
Health care and social assistance	33,743	34,826	3.2
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	25,599	28,167	10.0
Accommodation and food services	13,018	13,390	2.9
Other services, except public administration	22,512	23,573	4.7
Government	31,887	32,870	3.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Average annual wages for 2001 and 2002 by NAICS industry for all covered workers¹ by Southeast States (Continued)

State and Industry	Average annual wages		
	2001	2002	Percent Change 2001-02
Virginia			
Private			
Total ³	\$36,525	\$36,750	0.6
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	20,971	21,324	1.7
Mining	44,817	44,994	0.4
Construction	34,901	35,594	2.0
Manufacturing	38,021	39,089	2.8
Wholesale trade	51,609	50,862	-1.4
Retail trade	21,313	22,027	3.4
Transportation and warehousing	34,965	36,283	3.8
Utilities	63,772	66,144	3.7
Information	76,660	65,082	-15.1
Finance and insurance	55,010	56,232	2.2
Real estate and rental and leasing	32,482	33,649	3.6
Professional and technical services	62,399	63,750	2.2
Management of companies and enterprises	64,774	69,678	7.6
Administrative and waste services	23,336	24,173	3.6
Educational services	29,445	30,339	3.0
Health care and social assistance	32,496	34,004	4.6
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	17,669	18,529	4.9
Accommodation and food services	12,861	13,179	2.5
Other services, except public administration	27,124	28,050	3.4
Government	37,700	39,347	4.4
West Virginia			
Private			
Total ³	27,322	27,819	1.8
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	19,136	19,009	-0.7
Mining	49,849	50,449	1.2
Construction	32,428	31,650	-2.4
Manufacturing	39,102	39,740	1.6
Wholesale trade	36,477	38,017	4.2
Retail trade	17,732	18,428	3.9
Transportation and warehousing	32,824	32,868	0.1
Utilities	59,328	59,199	-0.2
Information	32,935	35,036	6.4
Finance and insurance	31,381	31,671	0.9
Real estate and rental and leasing	21,186	22,479	6.1
Professional and technical services	33,029	34,771	5.3
Management of companies and enterprises	45,917	42,959	-6.4
Administrative and waste services	17,141	17,570	2.5
Educational services	23,922	23,266	-2.7
Health care and social assistance	28,048	28,843	2.8
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	15,013	15,767	5.0
Accommodation and food services	10,800	11,118	2.9
Other services, except public administration	18,411	19,115	3.8
Government	30,692	31,812	3.6

¹Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

²Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

³Includes data for industries in addition to those shown separately.

⁴Data do not meet BLS or State agency disclosure standards.

Table 3. Average annual wages for 2001 and 2002 for all covered workers¹ by metropolitan areas in the Southeast

Metropolitan area ²	Average annual wages			Ranking of areas by level of average annual pay for 2002
	2001	2002	Percent Change 2001-02	
All metropolitan areas ³	\$37,908	\$38,423	1.4	
Albany, GA	28,877	29,913	3.6	199
Anniston, AL	26,486	27,547	4.0	269
Asheville, NC	28,511	28,771	0.9	236
Athens, GA	28,966	29,942	3.4	197
Atlanta, GA	40,559	41,123	1.4	25
Auburn-Opelika, AL	25,753	26,405	2.5	292
Augusta-Aiken, GA-SC	30,626	31,743	3.6	151
Baltimore, MD	37,495	38,718	3.3	36
Biloxi-Gulfport-Pascagoula, MS	28,351	28,515	0.6	243
Birmingham, AL	34,519	35,940	4.1	62
Charleston, WV	31,530	32,136	1.9	138
Charleston-North Charleston, SC	28,887	29,993	3.8	194
Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC	37,267	38,413	3.1	39
Charlottesville, VA	32,427	33,328	2.8	105
Chattanooga, TN-GA	29,981	30,631	2.2	176
Clarksville-Hopkinsville, TN-KY	25,567	26,940	5.4	279
Columbia, SC	29,904	30,721	2.7	175
Columbus, GA-AL	28,412	29,207	2.8	215
Cumberland, MD-WV	25,504	26,704	4.7	283
Danville, VA	25,465	26,116	2.6	299
Daytona Beach, FL	25,953	26,898	3.6	280
Decatur, AL	30,891	30,370	-1.7	183
Dothan, AL	28,026	29,270	4.4	212
Dover, DE	27,754	29,818	7.4	201
Evansville-Henderson, IN-KY	31,042	31,977	3.0	143
Fayetteville, NC	26,981	28,298	4.9	252
Florence, AL	25,639	26,591	3.7	289
Florence, SC	28,800	29,563	2.6	205
Fort Lauderdale, FL	33,966	34,475	1.5	83
Fort Myers-Cape Coral, FL	29,432	30,324	3.0	185
Fort Pierce-Port St. Lucie, FL	27,742	29,152	5.1	218
Fort Walton Beach, FL	26,151	27,242	4.2	276
Gadsden, AL	25,760	26,214	1.8	295
Gainesville, FL	26,917	27,648	2.7	266
Goldsboro, NC	25,398	25,821	1.7	302
Greensboro-Winston Salem-High Point, NC	31,730	32,369	2.0	132
Greenville, NC	28,289	29,055	2.7	223
Greenville-Spartanburg, SC	30,940	31,726	2.5	152
Hagerstown, MD	29,020	30,034	3.5	192
Hattiesburg, MS	25,145	26,051	3.6	301
Hickory- Morganton, NC	27,305	27,996	2.5	259
Huntington-Ashland, WV-KY-OH	27,478	28,321	3.1	251
Huntsville, AL	36,727	38,571	5.0	38
Jackson, MS	29,813	30,537	2.4	179
Jackson, TN	29,414	30,443	3.5	181
Jacksonville, FL	32,367	33,722	4.2	100
Jacksonville, NC	21,395	22,269	4.1	318

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Average annual wages for 2001 and 2002 for all covered workers¹ by metropolitan areas in the Southeast (continued)

Metropolitan area ²	Average annual wages			Ranking of areas by level of average annual pay for 2002
	2001	2002	Percent Change 2001-02	
Johnson City-Kingsport-Bristol, TN-VA	\$28,543	\$29,076	1.9	222
Knoxville, TN	30,422	31,338	3.0	160
Lakeland-Winter Haven, FL	28,890	29,505	2.1	208
Lexington, KY	31,593	32,776	3.7	116
Louisville, KY-IN	33,058	33,901	2.6	96
Lynchburg, VA	28,859	29,444	2.0	209
Macon, GA	30,595	31,884	4.2	147
Melbourne-Titusville-Palm Bay, FL	32,798	33,913	3.4	94
Memphis, TN-AR-MS	34,603	35,922	3.8	63
Miami, FL	34,524	35,694	3.4	66
Mobile, AL	28,129	28,742	2.2	239
Montgomery, AL	29,150	30,525	4.7	180
Myrtle Beach, SC	24,029	24,672	2.7	314
Naples, FL	30,839	31,507	2.2	158
Nashville, TN	33,989	35,036	3.1	74
Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport News, VA-NC	29,875	30,823	3.2	170
Ocala, FL	26,012	26,628	2.4	285
Orlando, FL	31,276	32,461	3.8	127
Owensboro, KY	27,306	28,196	3.3	255
Panama City, FL	26,433	27,448	3.8	271
Parkersburg-Marietta, WV-OH	27,920	29,529	5.8	207
Pensacola, FL	28,059	28,189	0.5	256
Punta Gorda, FL	25,404	26,119	2.8	298
Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC	38,691	39,056	0.9	34
Richmond-Petersburg, VA	35,879	36,751	2.4	48
Roanoke, VA	30,330	31,775	4.8	150
Rocky Mount, NC	28,770	28,893	0.4	230
Sarasota-Bradenton, FL	27,958	28,950	3.5	228
Savannah, GA	30,176	30,796	2.1	171
Steubenville-Weirton, OH-WV	28,483	29,129	2.3	221
Sumter, SC	24,450	24,982	2.2	311
Tallahassee, FL	29,708	30,895	4.0	169
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	31,678	32,458	2.5	128
Tuscaloosa, AL	29,972	30,745	2.6	174
Washington, DC-MD-VA-WV	47,589	48,430	1.8	8
West Palm Beach-Boca Raton, FL	35,957	36,550	1.6	52
Wheeling, WV-OH	26,282	26,693	1.6	284
Wilmington, NC	29,287	29,157	-0.4	217
Wilmington-Newark, DE-MD	42,177	43,401	2.9	16

¹Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

²Includes data for Metropolitan Statistical Areas and Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas as defined by OMB Bulletin No. 99-04. See Technical Note.

³Totals do not include the six MSAs within Puerto Rico.

Table 4. Average annual wages for 2001 and 2002 for all covered workers¹ by largest counties in the Southeast

County ²	Average annual wages			Ranking of counties by level of average annual pay for 2002
	2001	2002	Percent Change 2001-02	
Jefferson, AL	\$35,453	\$36,972	4.3	111
Madison, AL	37,089	38,975	5.1	79
Mobile, AL	29,502	30,074	1.9	267
Montgomery, AL	29,979	31,431	4.8	243
Tuscaloosa, AL	29,972	30,745	2.6	254
New Castle, DE	42,849	44,244	3.3	40
Washington, DC	55,909	57,914	3.6	6
Alachua, FL	26,917	27,648	2.7	302
Brevard, FL	32,798	33,913	3.4	172
Broward, FL	33,966	34,475	1.5	154
Collier, FL	30,839	31,507	2.2	241
Duval, FL	33,721	35,279	4.6	140
Escambia, FL	28,610	28,905	1.0	288
Hillsborough, FL	32,874	33,936	3.2	171
Lee, FL	29,432	30,324	3.0	261
Leon, FL	30,287	31,432	3.8	242
Manatee, FL	26,629	28,561	7.3	293
Marion, FL	26,012	26,628	2.4	307
Miami-Dade, FL	34,524	35,694	3.4	131
Okaloosa, FL	26,151	27,242	4.2	304
Orange, FL	32,218	33,650	4.4	185
Palm Beach, FL	35,957	36,550	1.6	116
Pasco, FL	24,562	25,602	4.2	311
Pinellas, FL	31,742	32,160	1.3	218
Polk, FL	28,890	29,505	2.1	279
Sarasota, FL	29,030	29,213	0.6	282
Seminole, FL	31,951	32,637	2.1	207
Volusia, FL	26,064	26,947	3.4	305
Bibb, GA	30,647	31,843	3.9	229
Chatham, GA	30,549	31,085	1.8	250
Clayton, GA	38,301	38,579	0.7	85
Cobb, GA	40,174	40,679	1.3	61
DeKalb, GA	39,648	40,314	1.7	63
Fulton, GA	47,761	48,639	1.8	15
Gwinnett, GA	39,405	39,488	0.2	73
Muscogee, GA	29,316	30,129	2.8	265
Richmond, GA	29,431	30,587	3.9	256
Fayette, KY	32,237	33,565	4.1	187
Jefferson, KY	34,688	35,588	2.6	135
Anne Arundel, MD	37,190	38,161	2.6	93
Baltimore, MD	36,240	37,573	3.7	103
Frederick, MD	32,799	34,033	3.8	168
Howard, MD	40,191	41,700	3.8	52
Montgomery, MD	45,893	47,198	2.8	25
Prince Georges, MD	38,986	39,943	2.5	66
Baltimore City, MD	40,508	41,879	3.4	49
Harrison, MS	26,062	26,844	3.0	306

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Average annual wages for 2001 and 2002 for all covered workers¹ by largest counties in the Southeast (continued)

County ²	Average annual wages			Ranking of counties by level of average annual pay for 2002
	2001	2002	Percent Change 2001-02	
Buncombe, NC	\$28,701	\$28,973	0.9	287
Catawba, NC	28,852	29,123	0.9	284
Cumberland, NC	26,981	28,298	4.9	297
Durham, NC ...	48,076	47,705	-0.8	22
Forsyth, NC	34,693	35,395	2.0	138
Guilford, NC	33,217	33,825	1.8	175
Mecklenburg, NC	41,775	43,194	3.4	44
New Hanover, NC	29,725	29,805	0.3	274
Wake, NC	36,996	37,617	1.7	101
Charleston, SC	29,013	30,223	4.2	264
Greenville, SC	32,622	33,386	2.3	190
Horry, SC	24,029	24,672	2.7	313
Lexington, SC	28,158	28,462	1.1	294
Richland, SC	30,591	31,629	3.4	238
Spartanburg, SC	31,856	33,051	3.8	200
Davidson, TN	35,509	36,717	3.4	115
Hamilton, TN	31,240	31,830	1.9	230
Knox, TN ...	30,765	31,668	2.9	236
Rutherford, TN	32,130	33,142	3.1	195
Shelby, TN	35,791	37,226	4.0	106
Arlington, VA	55,390	57,427	3.7	8
Chesterfield, VA	32,957	33,668	2.2	183
Fairfax, VA	52,641	53,598	1.8	11
Henrico, VA	37,869	38,668	2.1	82
Loudoun, VA	61,321	47,761	-22.1	19
Prince William, VA	30,909	32,089	3.8	220
Alexandria City, VA	44,560	46,984	5.4	26
Chesapeake City, VA	27,722	28,761	3.7	291
Newport News City, VA	33,572	33,053	-1.5	198
Norfolk City, VA	33,504	34,769	3.8	149
Richmond City, VA	40,173	41,559	3.5	54
Virginia Beach City, VA	26,750	27,661	3.4	301
Kanawha, WV	31,601	32,074	1.5	221

¹Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

²Includes areas not officially designated as counties. See Technical Note.